# Belarus: Political Opposition and Dissent

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**Country of Origin Information Report**

The text describes Belarus’s political system and recent developments, including the 2020 protests and state control over information and culture. It outlines restrictions on civic space through legislation targeting government critics, notably anti-extremism and anti-terrorism laws, official lists, and politically motivated prosecutions, including for donations to organisations designated as extremist.

It also covers the law enforcement and justice system, including surveillance, border control measures, court procedures, fair trial guarantees, trials in absentia, and detention conditions of political prisoners. It concludes by examining the treatment of political opponents, protesters, journalists, human rights defenders and lawyers, former political prisoners, and their relatives.

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